REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 23, 2005, the Examiner indicates that claims 1 though 10, 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,289,462 to McNabb, et al. ("McNabb"). The Examiner further rejects claim 1 as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112, ¶2 for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claimed the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. More specifically, the Examiner asserts that claim 1 is indefinite because it is unclear in the first element of the claim whether a first message and a second message is received or whether a first message is received which contains a set of actions and a second message. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his observation and hereby amends claim 1 to clarify the first element. The amendment to the claim is supported by the application as originally filed and does not introduce new matter. Accordingly, entry of the amendment to claim 1 is respectfully submitted.

McNabb discusses a trusted compartmentalized computer operating system for controlling access to the execution of processes by applying file level extended sensitivity label attributes. Abstract. The attributes are utilized to restrict execution of processes that are requested by comparing the extended attributes, in addition to using standard file permission authorization. Abstract. According to McNabb, a method for processing requests includes the "steps of: receiving an incoming request for a data object; assigning a sensitivity label to an incoming request for a data object; reading extended attributes at a first storage destination associated with the data object; redirecting the incoming request to a second storage destination for the data object

based on the combination of the sensitivity label and the extended attributes; [and] executing an action associated with the redirected request." Col. 5, lns. 20-30.

McNabb also discusses a method for executing a commercial software product on a trusted server in a non-configuration mode that includes "the steps of: receiving a request related to the commercial software product at the trusted server comprising a request name, and address indicia; assigning a sensitivity level from the address indicia for the request related with the commercial software product; determining from the request a first location for a process to be executed for the commercial software product; retrieving the applied attributes for the process of the commercial software product stored at the first location; comparing the applied attributes to the assigned sensitivity level for the request, [and] executing the process requested where the process retrieved is correlated to the applied sensitivity level." Col. 5, lns. 47-61.

By contrast to McNabb, independent claim 1 of the present application is direct to a method for authorizing execution of requested actions transmitted between clients and servers of a data processing system. The method of claim 1 comprises the steps of receiving a first message including a set of actions, and a second message including user-requested actions and inputs; simulating execution of the set of actions and building a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable actions; comparing the list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the user-requested actions and inputs; and where the list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs includes the user-requested actions and inputs, authorizing execution of the user-requested actions.

McNabb fails to teach or suggest the element of receiving a first message including a set of actions, and a second message including user-requested actions and inputs. The Examiner correctly points out that McNabb discusses providing "a user ID and authentication response (such as a password, a biometric device, a smart card, or an access token)" and that once authenticated, "subsequent web requests can be identified . . . as part of an authenticated session". Col. 15, lns. 54-61. The authentication process of McNabb, however, is silent regarding receiving a first message including a set of actions, and a second message including user-requested actions and inputs. Although the Examiner asserts that providing a user ID and authentication request is a first message including a set of actions, McNabb only discusses providing a user ID and authentication response and makes no mention of including a set of actions. Col. 15, lns. 54-58. Indeed, the passages upon which the Examiner relies make no mention of receiving a set of actions and is limited to a user ID and authentication response. Similarly, although the Examiner asserts that identifying subsequent requests as part of a session satisfies the element of receiving a second message including user-requested actions and inputs, McNabb is silent regarding the receipt of a second message that includes user-requested actions and inputs. Col. 15, lns. 58-61.

The Examiner also correctly indicates that McNabb discusses the integration of simulation software into a trusted compartmentalized computer operating system. Col. 21, lns. 51-65. The Examiner is incorrect, however, regarding the use of the simulation software, which is for performance tuning purposes and not building a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable actions. Col. 21, lns. 50-54. According to McNabb, the simulation software "may assist in *providing a*

representation of a user's process interactions and requests where the output may be directed to administrators using an email process for any processes the deviates from the predefined paths defined in the original system." (emphasis added) Col. 21, lns. 55-60. Although the simulation software provides a representation of a user's process interactions and requests, McNabb, however, is silent regarding simulating execution of the set of actions (received in a first message) and building a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable actions. That is, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, McNabb only provides a representation of a user's process interactions and requests, as opposed to simulating execution of a set of actions and building a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable actions, as claimed.

The Examiner is further correct that McNabb discusses modifying the graphical representation of the simulation software into a tabular or linked list form that may then be used by the UDE and the security gate to control process activities. Col. 21, lns. 62-65. Contrary to the Examiner's conclusion, however, there is no teaching or suggestion by McNabb of simulating execution of the set of actions received in a first message as claimed. The simulation software of McNabb does not build a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable inputs as claimed. On the basis of the foregoing, McNabb fails to teach or suggest the elements of independent claim 1, and Applicant's respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and allowance of the same.

Independent claim 16 is directed towards a method performed by a gateway for authorizing requested actions transmitted from a client to a server of a client/server data processing system. According to claim 16, the method comprises,

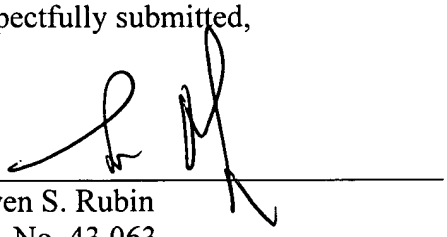
among other elements, receiving, from the server, a document including a set of actions and simulating execution of the set of actions and building a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable actions. As discussed above, the simulation software that McNabb discusses provides a representation of a user's process interactions and requests, as opposed to simulating execution a set of actions and building a list of allowable actions and user-definable inputs to the allowable actions as claimed. Furthermore, McNabb is silent regarding comparing the list of allowable actions and user-definable imputer to the user-requested actions and inputs. McNabb fails to teach or suggest at least the claimed steps of simulating execution of the set of actions and comparing the list of allowable actions. Accordingly, McNabb fails to teach or suggest the elements of independent claim 16, and Applicant's respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16 and allowance of the same.

The dependent claims of the present application contain additional features that further substantially distinguish the invention of the present application over the prior art of record. Given the applicants' position on the patentability of the independent claims, however, it is not deemed necessary at this point to delineate such distinctions.

For at least all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and objections, and allowance of all the pending claims is respectfully solicited. To expedite prosecution of this application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the applicants' undersigned representative to discuss any issues relating to this application.

Date: 8/23/05

Respectfully submitted,



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8/23/05

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